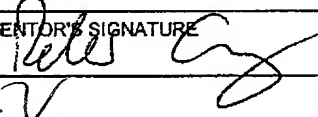
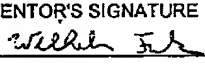


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION		FILE NO. GK-OEH-119/ 500814.20020													
<p>As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STABLE NEAR-INFRARED (NIR) MARKER DYES BASED ON BENZOPYRILIUM-POLYMETHINES</p>															
<p>The specification of which</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> was filed on _____ as United States patent application Serial Number _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> was filed on <u>May 22, 2001</u> as PCT International patent application No. <u>PCT/DE01/01946</u> and was amended on _____ (if any).</p> <p>I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.</p> <p>I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.</p> <p>I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:</p> <p>Prior Foreign Application(s)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">COUNTRY</th> <th style="width: 25%;">APPLICATION NUMBER</th> <th style="width: 25%;">DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)</th> <th style="width: 25%;">PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>100 25 820.4</td> <td>23 May 2000</td> <td>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>200 22 277.5</td> <td>23 May 2000</td> <td>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I hereby appoint REED SMITH LLP and the members of the firm: Lloyd McAulay, Reg. No. 20,423; Jules E. Goldberg, Reg. No. 24,408; Gerald H. Kiel, Reg. No. 25,116; Eugene LeDonne, Reg. No. 36,930; Stephen Chin, Reg. No. 39,938; Arthur Dresner, Reg. No. 24,403; Daniel Lent, Reg. No. 44,867; Samir R. Patel, Reg. No. 44,998; and Harry K. Ahn, Reg. No. 40,243, as attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute all business in the Patent & Trademark Office connected therewith and to receive all correspondence.</p> <p>SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: <u>Gerald H. Kiel, Esq.</u> <u>REED SMITH, LLP</u> <u>375 Park Avenue</u> <u>New York, New York 10152-1799, U.S.A.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: (212) 521-5400</p> <p>I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.</p>				COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119	Germany	100 25 820.4	23 May 2000	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Germany	200 22 277.5	23 May 2000	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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Germany	200 22 277.5	23 May 2000	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>												
FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR <u>Peter CZERNEY</u>		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE 													
RESIDENCE <u>D-99425 Weimar, Germany</u>		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>Germany</u>													
POST OFFICE ADDRESS <u>Bodelschwinghstrasse 137, D-99425 Weimar, Germany</u>															
FULL NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR (IF ANY) <u>Wilhelm FRANK</u>		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE 													
RESIDENCE <u>D-07743 Jena, Germany</u>		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>Germany</u>													
POST OFFICE ADDRESS <u>Grietgasse 6, D-07743 Jena, Germany</u>															

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COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION (continued)		File No. GK-OEH-119/ 500814.20020
FULL NAME OF THIRD INVENTOR (IF ANY) Frank LEHMANN	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Frank Lehmann</i>	DATE 15.01.2002
RESIDENCE D-07749 Jena, Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS Camsdorfer Strasse 22, D-07749 Jena, Germany		
FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY) Bernd SCHWEDER	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Bernd Schweder</i>	DATE 15.01.2002
RESIDENCE D-07743 Jena, Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS Leipziger Strasse 67, D-07743 Jena, Germany		
FULL NAME OF FIFTH INVENTOR (IF ANY) Matthias WENZEL	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Matthias Wenzel</i>	DATE 15.01.2002
RESIDENCE D-07749 Jena, Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS Braendstroemstrasse 4, D-07749 Jena, Germany		
FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
FULL NAME OF SEVENTH JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
FULL NAME OF EIGHTH JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
FULL NAME OF NINTH JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		